



The Manager: A Helmsman or A Herdsman?

Dr.N.Ramachandran

Former Professor of Communication & Soft skills
Dr.MGR Educational& Research Institute, University, Chennai.

S.Elumalaiyan

Assistant Professor, Faculty of Management studies
Dr.MGR Educational& Research Institute, University, Chennai.

Abstract:

This paper highlights some of the great qualities of good managers by juxtaposing the demerits of inefficient managers/heads/HOD in many of the Organizations and Educational Institutions. The focus of the paper is dealing with the qualities and attitudes of managers which is on being a good manager because it is the vital process of Management, keeping every other part or aspect healthy. It is stressed that managers are not herdsman but helmsmen dealing with not machines but humans like them. This paper concludes with the positive note that effective and excellent leaders/managers/HOD's can also be 'made' through formal training courses conducted by competent persons. The essential managerial skills will bring about a change in the attitude which in turn helps create a convivial environment that contributes to success, quality, and productivity of an organization.

Key words: effective leaders, essential managerial skills, change in attitude, convivial environment.